

PATENT 0033-0682P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Masafumi YAMANOUE et al.

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Appl. No.:

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Group:

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Amended)

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 April 16, 2004

Sir:

This is a Reply to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2003.

A petition for a one (1) month extension of time to April 19, 2004 is included. The following amendments and remarks are submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This Paper includes:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper;

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper;

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper; and

An **Appendix**, including an Abstract of the Disclosure, is attached following page 21 of this paper.